

1 Medical Quality's final decision on May 28, 1986, which
2 is the beginning of the 10 year probation period.

3
4
5 Dated: September 30, 1988

DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE

6
7
8 By *Theresa Claassen*

9 THERESA CLAASSEN
Secretary-Treasurer
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BEFORE THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation
Against:

Lee S. Woldenberg, M.D.
Certificate # G-15581

Respondent.


No. D-3108
L-30664

ORDER DELAYING DECISION

Pursuant to section 11517 (d) of the Government Code, the Division of Medical Quality, finding that a further delay is required by special circumstances, hereby issues this order delaying the Decision for no more than 30 days from November 13, 1986 (when the 100-day period expires) to December 12, 1986.

The reasons for the delay are as follows: This case is on the agenda for discussion and decision at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Division of Medical Quality, set for November 13, 1986, which is the expiration of the 100-day period. Therefore, the Division needs additional time to hear oral arguments of the parties scheduled for November 13, 1986, and to meet and complete its work in this case, including time after the meeting to draft and type the appropriate pleading, and to effect service on the parties.

DATED: November 6, 1986


KENNETH WAGSTAFF
Executive Director
BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE

BEFORE THE
DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation)	
)	
)	
LEE STEVEN WOLDENBERG, M.D.)	CASE NO. D-3108
Certificate No. G-15581)	
)	OAH NO. L-30664
Respondent.)	
)	

DECISION

The attached Proposed Decision and Determination of Issues is hereby adopted by the Division of Medical Quality as its Decision in the above-entitled case except that Finding of Fact IX is added as follows:

IX

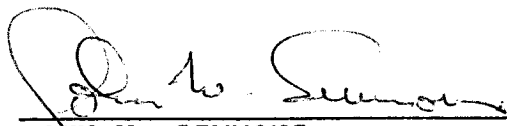
The public interest would not be served by the limitation of respondent's practice to radiology in light of the severity and frequency of the acts described hereinabove.

However, the Proposed Order is not adopted and the Division of Medical Quality, having read the entire record including the transcript and having considered the parties' written and oral arguments, hereby decides that the Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate number G-15581 issued to respondent Lee Steven Woldenberg is revoked.

The effective date of this decision shall be December 12, 1986.

IT IS SO ORDERED

November 13, 1986



JOHN W. SIMMONS
Secretary/Treasurer
Division of Medical Quality

BEFORE THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation)	
Against:)	NO. D-3108 L 30664
)	
LEE STEVEN WOLDENBERG, M.D.)	
Certificate No. G-15581,)	NOTICE OF NON-ADOPTION
)	OF PROPOSED DECISION
Respondent.)	

TO ALL PARTIES:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Division of Medical Quality did not adopt the proposed decision in this case. The Division will now decide the case itself upon the record, including the transcript.

You are now afforded the opportunity to present both oral and written argument to the Division. If you want to make oral argument, you must file with the Division within 20 days from the date of this notice your written request for oral argument. Otherwise, this option shall be deemed waived. If any written request is timely received, all parties will then be notified in writing of the date, time and place for hearing oral arguments from both sides.

As to written argument, you will be notified in writing of the deadline date to file your written argument with the Division. Your right to argue on any matter is not limited, but the Division would be interested in persuasive discussions on the following matters:

WHY THE PENALTY SHOULD NOT BE INCREASED.

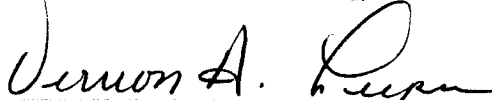
For its own use, the Division has ordered the preparation of the hearing transcript and records. At your own expense, you may order a copy of the same by personally contacting the transcript clerk at the Office of Administrative Hearings at: 314 West First Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Please remember to include your proof of service that the opposing attorney was served with a copy of your written argument to the Division. The address for mailing or serving your request for oral argument and your written argument to the Division is as follows:

Division of Medical Quality
1430 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825

DATED: June 9, 1986

DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE


VERNON A. LEEPER, Chief
Enforcement Program

BEFORE THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

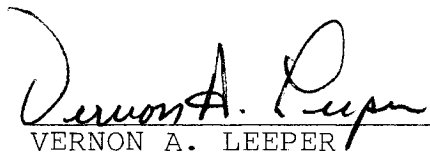
In the Matter of the Accusation)	
Against:)	NO. D-3108
)	
LEE STEVEN WOLDENBERG, M.D.)	L-30664
Certificate No. G-15581,)	
)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	
)	

ORDER DELAYING DECISION

Pursuant to section 11517(d) of the Government Code, the Division of Medical Quality, finding that a further delay is required by special circumstances, hereby issues this order delaying the decision for no more than 30 days from May 28, 1986 (when the 100-day period expires) to June 27, 1986.

The reasons for the delay are as follows: The case is on the agenda for discussion and decision at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Division of Medical Quality, set for May 29, 1986, which is one day after the expiration of the 100-day period on May 28, 1986. Therefore, the Division needs additional time to meet and complete its work in this case, including time after the meeting to draft and type the appropriate pleading, and to effect service on the parties.

DATED: May 5, 1986



VERNON A. LEEPER
Chief
Enforcement Program
Division of Medical Quality

BEFORE THE
DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation)	
Against:)	
)	No. D-3108
)	
LEE STEVEN WOLDENBERG, M.D.)	
5707 Windgate)	L-30664
Toledo, Ohio 43615)	
)	
Physician's and Surgeon's)	
Certificate No. G-15581)	
)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

PROPOSED DECISION

This matter came on regularly for hearing before Milford A. Maron, Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings, at Los Angeles, California, on January 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 30 and 31; February 3, 4 and 10, 1986. William L. Carter, Deputy Attorney General, appeared on behalf of the complainant. The respondent was represented by Thomas Larry Watts, Esq. Evidence both oral and documentary having been introduced and the matter submitted, the Administrative Law Judge finds the following facts:

I

A. Stephen R. Wilford, Complainant, made the Accusation in his official capacity as the Acting Executive Director of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance of the State of California.

B. Kenneth J. Wagstaff, Complainant, made the Second Amended Accusation and the Third Amended Accusation in his official capacity as the Executive Director of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance of the State of California.

II

On or about October 11, 1968, the State Board issued to respondent, Lee Steven Woldenberg, M.D., a physician's and surgeon's certificate, number G-15581. Said certificate is now and was at all times mentioned herein, in full force and effect.

III

In or about January 1971, respondent participated in the formation in Los Angeles of the Center for Feeling Therapy.* The Center's therapeutic goal was to lead patients to open themselves up and act through their true feelings instead of defensively repressing them. Between January 1971 and November 1980, respondent and others engaged in treating hundreds of individuals psychotherapeutically in a cult-like atmosphere, by methods which resulted in an enforced dependency by large numbers of patients. The therapy consisted, among other things, of verbal and physical abuse, humiliation and gross fear.

IV

In particular, respondent engaged in specific acts of misconduct with patients as part of their purported therapy in which he acted as the psychiatrist-therapist, all of which evidences gross negligence in the practice of medicine and is an extreme departure from the accepted standards of care:

A. During June and July 1978, respondent conducted weekly therapy sessions on patient Elliot G., during which respondent referred to the patient as being "dog-shit" and required him to wear a T-shirt which contained the words "Dog Shit" emblazoned upon it.

*As explained by Center personnel -

"Feeling therapy is an out-patient, community-oriented psychotherapy that includes both individual and group sessions in its structure. It emphasizes the development of matched feeling expression, defined as the congruence of inner sensate and cognitive experience with outer behavioral expression. In feeling therapy, the therapist systematically examines both how a person feels and the behavior dynamics that influence how he feels. There is a three-fold emphasis on: (1) feelings as basic mediators of behavior, (2) practical programs for inducing change, and (3) the need for sustained group support to maintain therapeutic changes." (Exhibit Y)

B. During 1980, on a weekly basis, respondent required patient George G. to conduct unlicensed therapy sessions on Center patient Martin R. Respondent knew George G. had no competent training in psychotherapy, and which created the risk of serious emotional injury to the patient.

C. In March 1975 respondent instructed Melody G., Barbara B., Linda T., and other patients to physically abuse patient Jama T. so she would reverse a strongly held position.

D. During 1973, respondent conducted weekly therapy sessions on Marilyn H., being aware that the patient suffered from chronic urinary tract and bladder infections and that she had been told by her personal physician not to hold her urine for any prolonged period of time. Nevertheless, respondent required her to drink a quart of water before every therapy session and not to urinate until she returned home at night.

E. In June 1979, respondent ridiculed patient Alyson L. until she cried. When her nose started to run, he told her she was a "waste of time" and that she should wipe her nose on her sleeve "like little Pollacks do."

F. During October, November, and December 1978, respondent repeatedly ridiculed Daniel T. for living his life like a baby. As a therapy assignment, he required the patient to eat only baby food, sleep in a crib and wear diapers.

G. During 1978, respondent regularly ridiculed Robert W. for being "insane" and a "neurotic Jew" and openly referred to him as "the little Jew in the big Cadillac."

H. During May 1980, respondent ridiculed patient Susan S. for not having a boy friend. As a therapy assignment he required the patient to go out on five dates a week and find a "boyfriend" or "mate" by a specific date, or, he, in the alternative, would "assign" one from the Center patients.

I. Respondent assigned Kathy K.'s therapy sessions over to an unlicensed therapist, who conducted therapy sessions on Kathy K. from 1972 until 1974. Woldenberg's conduct created the risk of serious emotional injury to the patient.

V

Respondent testified in his own behalf and established the following facts:

1. That he and a number of others founded the Center for Feeling Therapy at the time in which they were all enrolled in therapy at the Primal Institute. The Center was patterned after Primal Therapy, with some basic modifications.

2. Respondent underwent a surgical internship after graduating from medical school, followed by seventeen months in general medicine in the U.S. Navy.

3. Respondent's psychiatric training up to the point of enrolling in Primal Therapy was limited to a few courses taken in medical school.

4. Since the demise of the Center respondent reentered medical training and secured the specialty of radiology. He is presently board certified in radiology and is engaged in a radiology practice out-of-state.

VI

A. The professional services performed through various professionals, including respondent, at the Center for Feeling Therapy included physical and emotional abuse. Although the psychological approach engaged in at the Center is not in the mainstream of traditional psychotherapy, some patients maintained they benefited psychologically.

B. The findings herein should not be construed as favoring one theory of psychotherapy over any other. However, undoubtedly, any patient-oriented therapy would have as its fulcrum the improvement of a patient's self-image or self-esteem. Here the record abundantly establishes that by subjecting the patients to bazarre and humiliating behavior, the result to many patients was the loss of self-esteem with an increase of depression.

VII

Respondent argues that laches bars the complainant from proceeding here. The record stands devoid of any evidence which establishes that respondent suffered any prejudice by virtue of any delay in the preparation or presentation of the case.

VIII

All allegations not heretofore found affirmatively are hereby determined to be unproved by the evidence.

* * * * *

Pursuant to the foregoing findings of fact, the Administrative Law Judge makes the following determination of issues:

I

Cause for disciplinary action exists against respondent pursuant to Section 2234 of the Business and Professions Code, within the meaning of Sections 2234(b) (formerly Section 2361(b)) and Section 2264 (formerly Section 2329) of the Business and Professions Code.

II

No cause for disciplinary action exists against respondent pursuant to Sections 726, 2052, 2234(a), (c), (d), (e) (formerly 2361(f)), (f), 2053, 2054, 2261 (formerly 2411), 2262, 2263, 2271, 2273 and 17500 of the Business and Professions Code.

* * * * *

WHEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDER is hereby made:

The Physician's and surgeon's certificate No. G-15581 heretofore issued to respondent, Lee Steven Woldenberg, M.D., is hereby revoked; provided, however, said revocation shall be stayed and respondent placed on probation for a period of ten (10) years upon the following terms and conditions:

1. Respondent, while engaged in the practice of medicine, shall limit his practice to the specialty of Radiology;

2. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and all rules governing the practice of medicine in California;

3. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Division, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation;

4. Respondent shall comply with the Division's probation surveillance program;

5. Respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the Division's medical consultant upon request at various intervals and with reasonable notice;

6. In the event respondent should leave California to reside or to practice outside the State, respondent must notify in writing the Division of the dates of departure and return. Periods of residency or practice outside California will not apply to the reduction of this probationary period;

7. If respondent violates probation in any respect, the Division, after giving respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the revocation of the respondent's certificate.

* * * * *

Respondent shall not petition for the removal of said conditions, or any of them, until expiration of five (5) years from the date of this order. Upon successful completion of probation, respondent's certificate will be fully restored.

I hereby submit the foregoing which constitutes my Proposed Decision in the above-entitled matter, as a result of the hearing had before me on said dates, at Los Angeles, California, and recommend its adoption as the decision of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance.

DATED: Feb. 13, 1986



MILFORD A. MARON
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings

MAM:btm

1 JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP, Attorney General
of the State of California
2 WILLIAM L. CARTER,
Deputy Attorney General
3 3580 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90010
4 Telephone: (213) 736-2043
5 Attorneys for Complainant
6
7

8 BEFORE THE
DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY
9 BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
10 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11 In the Matter of the Accusation)
Against:) NO. D-3108
12) L-30664
LEE STEVEN WOLDENBERG, M.D.)
13 5707 Windgate) SECOND AMENDED
Toledo, Ohio 43615)
14) ACCUSATION
Physician's and Surgeon's)
15 Certificate No. G-15581,)
16 Respondent.)
17

18 COMES NOW complainant, KENNETH J. WAGSTAFF, who, as
19 cause for disciplinary action against the above named respondent,
20 charges and alleges as follows:

21 1. He is the Executive Director of the Board of Medical
22 Quality Assurance of the Department of Consumer Affairs of the
23 State of California (hereinafter referred to as the "board") and
24 makes and files this accusation solely in his official capacity.

25 2. On or about October 11, 1968, the board issued to
26 Lee Steven Woldenberg, M.D. (hereinafter referred to as
27 "respondent"), physician's and surgeon's certificate number

1 G-15581. Said certificate is now and was at all times mentioned
2 herein, in full force and effect.

3 3. Section 2001 of the Business and Professions Code
4 (hereinafter the "code") provides for the existence of the board
5 as successor to the Board of Medical Examiners.

6 4. Section 2003 of the code provides for the existence
7 of the Division of Medical Quality (hereinafter the "division")
8 within the board.

9 5. Section 2004 of the code provides, inter alia, that
10 the division is responsible for the administration and hearing of
11 disciplinary actions involving enforcement of the Medical Practice
12 Act (section 2000 et seq. of the code) and the carrying out of
13 disciplinary action appropriate to findings made by a medical
14 quality review committee, the division, or an administrative law
15 judge with respect to the quality of medical practice carried out
16 by physician and surgeon certificate holders.

17 6. Sections 2220, 2234, and 2227 of the code together
18 provide that the division shall take disciplinary action against
19 the holder of a physician's and surgeon's certificate who is
20 guilty of unprofessional conduct.

21 7. Section 2234,^{1/} of the code provides, in pertinent
22 part, that unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to,
23 the following:

24 /

25
26 1. The herein accusation involves alleged disciplinary
27 infractions based upon events which occurred during the period of
approximately 1971 through 1980. Various relevant code sections

2.

1 "(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly
2 or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation
3 of, or conspiring to violate, any provision of this
4 chapter.

5 "(b) Gross negligence.

6 "(c) Repeated similar negligent acts.

7 "(d) Incompetence.

8
9 were amended or inacted during this period of time. Whereas all
10 the sections cited herein were in full force and effect as
11 currently enacted during at least a portion of time here relevant,
12 variations therewith, involving the disciplinary provisions
13 thereof, will be referenced by footnote for the particular period
14 of time in question. For example, since section 2234 of the code
15 was amended several times between 1971 and 1980, pertinent
16 variations with the statute as currently enacted follow:

17 Section 2234 of the code, added by Statutes 1980, chapter
18 1313, section 2, page 4473, was formerly section 2361 of the code
19 and, as amended by Statutes 1978, chapter 1161, section 124, page
20 3624, provided the same disciplinary grounds section 2234
21 currently provides except subdivision (e) provided (relevant
22 between January 1, 1980 and January 1, 1981):

23 "(e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty
24 or corruption, whether the act is committed in the
25 course of the individual's activities as a certificate
26 holder, or otherwise, or whether the act is a felony or
27 a misdemeanor."

28 Section 2361 of the code was amended by Statutes 1976,
29 chapter 1185, section 47, page 5302 to provide the same
30 disciplinary grounds section 2234 currently provides except
31 subdivisions (e), (f), and (g), provided (relevant between
32 January 1, 1977 and January 1, 1980):

33 "(e) Gross immorality.

34 "(f) The commission of any act involving moral
35 turpitude, dishonesty, or corruption whether the act is
36 committed in the course of the individual's activities
37 as a certificate holder, or otherwise, or whether the
38 act is a felony or misdemeanor.

39 "(g) Any action or conduct which would have
40 warranted the denial of a certificate."

1 "(e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty
2 or corruption which is substantially related to the
3 qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and
4 surgeon.

5 "(f) Any action or conduct which would have
6 warranted the denial of a certificate."

7 8. Section 2052^{2/} of the code provides that any person
8 who practices or attempts to practice, or who advertises or holds
9 himself or herself out as practicing any system or mode of
10 treating the sick or afflicted in this state, or who diagnoses,

11 Section 2361 of the code was amended by Statutes 1975,
12 chapter 1, section 16, page 3963 to provide the same disciplinary
13 grounds section 2234 currently provides except subdivisions (c),
14 (d), (e), and (f), provided (relevant between January 1, 1976 and
15 January 1, 1977):

16 "(c) Incompetence.

17 "(d) Gross immorality.

18 "(e) The commission of any act involving moral
19 turpitude, dishonesty, or corruption, whether the act is
20 committed in the course of the individual's activities
21 as a certificate holder, or otherwise, or whether the
22 act is a felony or misdemeanor.

23 "(f) Any action or conduct which would have
24 warranted the denial of the certificate."

25 Section 2361 of the code was amended by Statutes 1974,
26 chapter 888, section 1, page 1886 and by Statutes 1965, chapter
27 1458, section 2, page 3414 and provided the same disciplinary
grounds as set forth immediately hereinabove except subdivision
(c), provided (relevant prior to January 1, 1976):

 "(c) Gross incompetency."

 2. Section 2052 of the code, added by Statutes 1980, chapter
1313, section 2, page 1313, was formerly section 2141 of the code,
added by Statutes 1937, chapter 414, page 1377, amended by
Statutes 1967, chapter 1103, section 1, page 2741, and provided
essentially as it currently provides.

1 treats, operates for, or prescribes for any ailment, blemish,
2 deformity, disease, disfigurement, disorder, injury, or other
3 physical or mental condition of any person, without having at the
4 time of so doing a valid, unrevoked, or unsuspended certificate as
5 provided in this chapter, or without being authorized to perform
6 such act pursuant to a certificate obtained in accordance with
7 some other provision of law, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

8 9. Section 2053^{3/} of the code provides that any person
9 who willfully, under circumstances or conditions which cause or
10 create risk of great bodily harm, serious physical or mental
11 illness, or death, practices or attempts to practice, or
12 advertises or holds himself or herself out as practicing, any
13 system or mode of treating the sick or afflicted in this state, or
14 diagnoses, treats, operates for, or prescribes for any ailment,
15 blemish, deformity, disease, disfigurement, disorder, injury, or
16 other physical or mental condition of any person, without having
17 at the time of so doing a valid, unrevoked, or suspended
18 certificate as provided in this chapter, or without being
19 authorized to perform such act pursuant to a certificate obtained
20 in accordance with some other provision of law, is punishable by
21 imprisonment in the county jail for not exceeding one year or in
22 the state prison.

23 /

24
25 3. Section 2053 of the code, added by Statutes 1980, chapter
26 1313, section 2, page 4449, was formerly section 2141.5 of the
27 code, added by Statutes 1967, chapter 1103, section 2, page 1103,
amended by Statutes 1976, chapter 1139, section 2.5, page 5063,
and provided essentially as it currently provides.

1 10. Section 2054^{4/} of the code provides that any person
2 who uses in any sign, business card, or letterhead, or, in an
3 advertisement, the words "doctor" or "physician," the letters or
4 prefix "Dr.," the initials "M.D.," or any other terms or
5 letters indicating or implying that he or she is a physician and
6 surgeon, physician, surgeon, or practitioner under the terms of
7 this or any other law, or that he or she is entitled to practice
8 hereunder, or who represents or holds himself or herself out as a
9 physician and surgeon, physician, surgeon, or practitioner under
10 the terms of this or any other law, without having at the time of
11 so doing a valid, unrevoked, and unsuspended certificate as a
12 physician and surgeon under this chapter, is guilty of a
13 misdemeanor.

14 11. Section 2261^{5/} of the code provides that knowingly
15 making or signing any certificate or other document directly or
16 indirectly related to the practice of medicine or podiatry which
17 falsely represents the existence or nonexistence of a state of
18 facts constitutes unprofessional conduct.

19 4. Section 2054 of the code, added by Statutes 1980, chapter
20 1313, section 2, page 4450, was formerly section 2142 of the code,
21 added by Statutes 1937, chapter 414, page 1377, amended by
22 Statutes 1951, chapter 235, section 1, page 498. Former section
23 2142.10, added by Statutes 1947, chapter 1005, section 1, page
24 2272, amended by Statutes 1974, chapter 546, section 5, page 1354,
provided essentially as section 2054 of the code currently
provides except that it spoke in terms of holding oneself out as a
physician.

25 5. Section 2261 of the code, added by Statutes 1980, chapter
26 1313, section 2, page 4477, was formerly section 2411 of the code,
27 added by Statutes 1939, chapter 342, section 1, page 1682, amended
by Statutes 1965, chapter 1458, section 9, page 3416, and Statutes
1971, chapter 753, section 35, page 1496, and provided essentially
as it currently provides.

1 12. Section 2262^{6/} of the code provides that altering or
2 modifying the medical record of any person, with fraudulent
3 intent, constitutes unprofessional conduct. In addition to any
4 other disciplinary action, the Division of Medical Quality or the
5 Podiatry Examining Committee may impose a civil penalty of five
6 hundred dollars (\$500) for a violation of this section.

7 13. Section 2263^{7/} of the code provides that the
8 willful, unauthorized violation of professional confidence
9 constitutes unprofessional conduct.

10 14. Section 2264^{8/} of the code provides that the
11 employing, directly or indirectly, the aiding, or the abetting of
12 any unlicensed person or any suspended, revoked, or unlicensed
13 practitioner to engage in the practice of medicine or any other
14 mode of treating the sick or afflicted which requires a license to
15 practice constitutes unprofessional conduct.

16 15. Section 2271^{9/} of the code provides that any
17 advertising in violation of section 17500, relating to false or
18 misleading advertising, constitutes unprofessional conduct.

19 6. Section 2262 of the code, added by Statutes 1980, chapter
20 1313, section 2, page 4477, was formerly section 2428.5, added by
21 Statutes 1974, chapter 888, section 9, page 1889, amended by
22 Statutes 1976, chapter 1185, section 62, page 5309, and Statutes
23 1979, chapter 644, section 1, page 1995, and provided essentially
as it currently provides except that prior to January 1, 1977,
there was no language in the statute dealing with creating false
medical records.

24 7. Added by Statutes 1980, chapter 1313, section 2, page 4477.

25 8. Section 2264, added by Statutes 1980, chapter 1313,
26 section 2, page 4477, was formerly section 2392, added by Statutes
1937, chapter 414, page 1377.

27 9. Section 2271, added by Statutes 1980, chapter 1313,
28 section 2, page 4477, was formerly section 2380, added by
Statutes 1937, chapter 414, page 1377. Section 2380 provided:

1 16. Section 2273^{10/} of the code provides that except as
2 otherwise allowed by law, the employment of cappers, steerers, or
3 other persons to procure patients constitutes unprofessional
4 conduct.

5 17. Section 17500^{11/} of the code provides that it is
6 unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or association, or any
7 employee thereof with intent directly or indirectly to dispose of
8 real or personal property or to perform services, professional or
9 otherwise, or anything of any nature whatsoever or to induce the
10 public to enter into any obligation relating thereto, to make or
11 disseminate or cause to be made or disseminated before the public
12 in this state, or to make or disseminate or cause to be made or
13 disseminated from this state before the public in any state, in
14 any newspaper or other publication, or any advertising device,
15 or by public outcry or proclamation, or in any other manner or
16 means whatever, any statement, concerning such real or

17 "All advertising of medical business which is
18 intended or has a tendency to deceive the public or
19 impose upon credulous or ignorant persons and so be
20 injurious to public morals or safety constitutes
unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this
chapter."

21 10. Section 2273, added by Statutes 1980, chapter 1313,
22 section 2, page 4477, was formerly section 2399, added by
Statutes 1937, chapter 414, page 1377.

23 11. Amended by Statutes 1979, chapter 492, section 1, page
24 1660, to provide as set forth in paragraph 17 (relevant after
January 1, 1980).

25 Amended by Statutes 1976, chapter 1125, section 4, page
26 5029 to provide as set forth in paragraph 17 exclusive of the
27 language ". . . or to make or disseminate or cause to be made or
disseminated from this state before the public in any state. . . ."
(relevant between Jan. 1, 1977 and Jan. 1, 1980).

1 personal property or services, professional or otherwise, or
2 concerning any circumstance or matter of fact connected with the
3 proposed performance or disposition thereof, which is untrue or
4 misleading, and which is known, or which by the exercise of
5 reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading, or
6 for any person, firm, or corporation to so make or disseminate or
7 cause to be so made or disseminated any such statement as part of
8 a plan or scheme with the intent not to sell such personal
9 property or services, professional or otherwise, so advertised at
10 the price stated therein, or as so advertised. Any violation of
11 the provisions of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by
12 imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by a

13 Prior to January 1, 1977, as here pertinent, section
14 17500 provided:

15 "False or misleading statements. It is unlawful
16 for any person, firm, corporation or association, or any
17 employee thereof with intent directly or indirectly to
18 dispose of real or personal property or to perform
19 services, professional or otherwise, or anything of any
20 nature whatsoever or to induce the public to enter into
21 any obligation relating thereto, to make or disseminate
22 or cause to be made or disseminated before the public in
23 this State, in any newspaper or other publication, or
24 any advertising device, or by public outcry or
25 proclamation, or in any other manner or means whatever,
26 any statement, concerning such real or personal property
27 or services, professional or otherwise, or concerning
any circumstance or matter of fact connected with the
proposed performance or disposition thereof, which is
untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which by
the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to be
untrue or misleading, or for any person, firm, or
corporation to so make or disseminate or cause to be so
made or disseminated any such statement as part of a
plan or scheme with the intent not to sell such personal
property or services, professional or otherwise, so
advertised at the price stated therein, or as so
advertised. (Added Stats. 1941, c. 63, p. 727, § 1, as
amended Stats. 1955, c. 1358, p. 2443, § 1)"

1 fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500), or
2 by both.

3 18. Section 726^{12/} of the code provides, in pertinent
4 part, that the commission of any act of sexual abuse, misconduct,
5 or relations with a patient, client, or customer which is
6 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties
7 of the occupation for which a license was issued constitutes
8 unprofessional conduct and grounds for disciplinary action.

9 19. Respondent Woldenberg is subject to revocation of
10 his physician's and surgeon's certificate pursuant to sections
11 2220, 2234, and 2227 of the code within the meaning of sections
12 2234, subdivisions (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f), 2052, 2053,
13 2054, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2271, 2273, 17500, and 726 of the
14 code in that he has committed repeated acts of gross negligence,
15 gross incompetence, dishonesty and corruption and has aided and
16 abetted the unlicensed practice of medicine and/or psychology as
17 well as violating professional confidences and committing or
18 aiding and abetting the commission of acts of sexual abuse,
19 misconduct or relations with patients as more particularly alleged
20 hereinbelow:

21 A. In or about January 1971, respondent
22 participated in the formation of the Center for Feeling
23 Therapy located originally at 1017 South La Brea and
24 /

25
26 12. Added by Statutes 1979, chapter 955, section 1, page
27 3294. Renumbered section 726 and amended by Statutes 1981,
chapter 714, section 3, page ____.

1 subsequently 7165 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles,
2 California.^{13/}

3 B. Prior to 1971, respondent and/or certain of the
4 co-founders of the Center had been involved with primal
5 scream therapy in Los Angeles and capitalized on this
6 relationship in holding themselves out as authorities in
7 the field of mass humanistic therapy. Respondent and
8 Center co-founders utilized the books "Going Sane: An
9 Introduction to Feeling Therapy," "Psychological
10 Fitness: 21 Days to Feeling Good," and "The Dream
11 Makers: Discovering Your Breakthrough Dreams,"
12 coauthored by Center co-founders Corriere, Hart, and
13 Binder, as well as purported research and newspaper and
14 magazine articles to publicize the Center.

15 C. Between approximately January of 1971 and
16 November of 1980, respondent and other professed Center
17 therapists purported to treat psychotherapeutically

18
19 13. Respondent formed and/or operated the center with several
20 other individuals, including, but not limited to, Richard J.
21 Corriere, Ph.D. ("Corriere"), Steven David Gold, Ph.D. ("Gold"),
22 Joseph T. Hart, Jr., Ph.D. ("Hart"), Michael Roy Hopper, Ph.D.
23 ("Hopper"), and Werner Karle, Ph.D. ("Karle"), psychologists
24 licensed with the Psychology Examining Committee, Gerald Binder,
25 Ph.D. ("Binder"), a psychological assistant licensed with the
26 Psychology Examining Committee, Dominic L. Cirincione
27 ("Cirincione"), Patricia K. Franklin ("Franklin"), Carol Anne
Gold, Michael D. Gross ("Gross"), and Paul W. Swanson ("Swanson"),
marriage, family, and child counselors licensed by the Board of
Behavioral Science Examiners, Konni Corriere, a psychiatric
technician licensed by the Board of Vocational Nurse and
Psychiatric Technician Examiners, and Nancy Gold, Paul Richler,
and Alan Vengel, unlicensed individuals. All of these individuals
acted as purported psychotherapists at the Center whether licensed
or not.

1 hundreds of individuals. At least the following
2 patients were purportedly treated psychotherapeutically
3 at the Center during the period indicated:^{14/}

4	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Year Therapy Began</u>	<u>Year Therapy Ended</u>
5	1. Steven A.	1975	1980
6	2. Robert A.	1973	1980
7	3. Larry A.	1973	1980
8	4. Jill B.	1970	1980
9	5. Ken B.	1973	1980
10	6. Bettyanne B.	1974	1980
11	7. Charlotte B.	1972	1980
12	8. Bonnie B.	1977	1980
13	9. John B.	1977	1980
14	10. David B.	1977	1980
15	11. Louise C.	1975	1980
16	12. Jim C.	1974	1980
17	13. Larry C.	1971	1980
18	14. Joy C.	1973	1980

19 14. The individuals listed herein by first name and last
20 initial each filed a complaint with the board regarding the
21 Center. Sworn declarations were executed. Various transcribed
22 accounts of alleged mistreatment also exist. The full names and
23 addresses of all complaining individuals together with in excess
24 of 3,700 pages of sworn statements, transcribed investigation
25 interviews, and investigation reports are available to respondent
26 upon request for discovery. The factual setting illustrated by
27 said declarations is too extensive to be set forth herein in
detail; however, the totality of patient mistreatment evidenced in
said declarations serves as the factual basis for the disciplinary
allegations against respondent and constitutes notice thereof.
Representative examples of misconduct involving particular
patients are set forth herein with respect to each alleged code
section or rule of ethical conduct violated and constitute the
specific grounds for discipline herein alleged.

	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Year Therapy Began</u>	<u>Year Therapy Ended</u>
1			
2	15. June D.	1971	1980
3	16. Sherry D.	1973	1980
4	17. Giannina D.	1975	1980
5	18. Linda E.	1979	1980
6	19. Richard E.	1979	1980
7	20. Irene E.	1977	1980
8	21. Bruce G.	1974	1980
9	22. Susan G.	1974	1980
10	23. Ann G.	1975	1980
11	24. Walter G.	1971	1980
12	25. Elliot G.	1971	1980
13	26. Sheryl G.	1978	1980
14	27. Howard G.	1973	1980
15	28. George G.	1974	1980
16	29. Melody G.	1973	1980
17	30. Gary H.	1971	1980
18	31. Nancy H.	1971	1980
19	32. Marilyn H.	1971	1980
20	33. Earl H.	1974	1974
21	34. Douglas H.	1974	1980
22	35. Carol I.	1977	1980
23	36. Douglas J.	1974	1980
24	37. Joanne K.	1971	1980
25	38. Alyson L.	1978	1980
26	39. Nina L.	1978	1980
27	40. Peter L.	1978	1980

13.

	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Year Therapy Began</u>	<u>Year Therapy Ended</u>
1			
2	41. Muriell L.	1971	1980
3	42. Rick L.	1972	1980
4	43. Kristine L.	1977	1980
5	44. Ruth L.	1978	1980
6	45. Jan M.	1974	1980
7	46. Robert M.	1974	1980
8	47. Jack M.	1972	1980
9	48. Lynn M.	1973	1980
10	49. Jennifer M.	1979	1980
11	50. Barbara M.	1971	1980
12	51. Kimberly M.	1975	1980
13	52. Anne M.	1977	1980
14	53. Withrop M.	1973	1980
15	54. Kerry M.	1977	1980
16	55. Eileen M.	1974	1974
17	56. Michael O.	1971	1980
18	57. Judy O.	1971	1980
19	58. Jeffrey O.	1978	1980
20	59. Chris R.	1978	1980
21	60. Robert R.	1974	1980
22	61. Robert S.	1971	1980
23	62. Adrienne S.	1972	1980
24	63. Patricia S.	1978	1980
25	64. Sumner S.	1973	1980
26	65. Susan S.	1978	1980
27	66. Karen S.	1971	1980

14.

	<u>Patient</u>	<u>Year Therapy Began</u>	<u>Year Therapy Ended</u>
1			
2	67. Daniel T.	1973	1980
3	68. John T.	1978	1980
4	69. Jama T.	1973	1980
5	70. Janice T.	1971	1980
6	71. Richard T.	1973	1980
7	72. Diane V.	1978	1980
8	73. Jean W.	1971	1980
9	74. Robert W.	1973	1980
10	75. Lois W.	1974	1980
11	76. Elizabeth W.	1974	1980
12	77. Edward W.	1974	1980
13	78. Linda W.	1973	1980
14	79. Jerry A.	1972	1980
15	80. Inez K.	1972	1980
16	81. Kathy K.	1971	1980
17	82. Janet K.	1977	1980
18	83. Pamela Ann M.	1974	1980
19	84. Preston O.	1974	1980
20	85. Isa P.	1977	1980
21	86. Geoff P.	1978	1980
22	87. Nicole R.	1972	1980
23	88. Kathleen S.	1979	1980
24	89. Susan S.	1971	1980
25	90. Michael S.	1973	1980
26	91. Suzanne T.	1974	1980
27		/	

1 D. Respondents, while purporting to treat the
2 hereinbelow referenced patients of the Center,
3 instituted and participated in a systematic social
4 influence process and an enforced dependency situation
5 which fits the recognized criteria of cult brainwashing
6 or coercive impression.^{15/} Respondent and his
7 co-therapists initially created a sense of powerlessness
8 in their purported patients by stripping them of social
9 support (friendship, kinship, ordinary environment,
10 central occupational roles, wealth) and psychological
11 confidence (through ridicule and creating states of
12 physical exhaustion) and then enforced massive new
13 learning demands through a reward/punishment mechanism
14 (including threatened loss of status, anxiety and guilt
15 manipulations and physical punishment as well as sexual
16 harrassment). Learning demands included financial

17
18 15. Brainwashing is a popular term for a behavior change
19 technology in which both social and psychological pressures are
20 applied to persons to induce the learning of any set of
21 information or behaviors under certain conditions. The popular or
22 colloquial term brainwashing is referred to in various technical
23 writings as thought reform or coercive persuasion. Although
24 successfully carried out in prison environments, this is not a
25 necessary component. The necessary component is the ability to
26 organize all or nearly all of the individual's time in a closed
27 system of logic and 24-hour a day involvement. Such a situation
depends upon: (a) controlling an individual's social and/or
physical environment; (b) placing an individual in a position of
powerlessness and manipulating a system of rewards, punishments
and experiences to promote new learning; and (c) using such
manipulation to inhibit and suppress the display of a person's
former "social identity" (beliefs, values, activities, and
characteristic demeanor) in favor of a "social identity" preferred
by those who specify the training criteria of the behavior change
system.

1 manipulation to respondents' benefit in the context of
2 the alleged victims being in a particularly weakened and
3 susceptible state due to their perceived psychological
4 problems.

5 E. Respondent, in order to break down and control
6 Center members, utilized racial, religious and ethnic
7 slurs, physical and verbal humiliation, physical,
8 especially sexual, abuse, threats of insanity and
9 violence and enforced states of physical and mental
10 exhaustion as more particularly alleged hereinbelow. In
11 order to isolate Center patients and render them
12 particularly susceptible to coercive impression,
13 respondents routinely represented to Center patients
14 that they should hate and blame their parents for making
15 the patients "crazy," give up their children for
16 adoption and abort pregnancy ostensibly because Center
17 members were too "crazy" to be parents.^{16/}

18 F. Grounds for revocation of licensure:

19 (1) In or about March 1977, while Center
20 patient Jill B. was attending a group therapy
21 session at the Center at approximately 10 p.m., she

22
23 16. During the nearly ten-year existence of the Center, no
24 children were born to the Center members referenced herein. This
25 was the result of a stringent enforced abortion policy implemented
26 by respondents with respect to even Center members who desperately
27 wanted children. As more particularly alleged hereinbelow,
respondents verbally and physically humiliated and abused Center
members until they agreed to abort any child conceived. Center
members remained at the Center in the face of the abuse because
respondents threatened them with insanity if they left.

1 was approached by Woldenberg, the Center
2 psychiatrist.^{17/} Woldenberg invited Jill B.
3 to his home. At Woldenberg's home, while
4 explaining to Jill B. that her purported
5 psychological problems involved the fact that
6 "you know what's wrong with you, you act like
7 a little girl," Woldenberg engaged in sexual
8 intimacies with Jill B., including disrobing,
9 taking a shower together and sexually fondling
10 Jill B. Then, after lying in bed together
11 until approximately 3 a.m., Woldenberg ordered
12 Jill B. to leave his home stating "go home,
13 you're a little girl." Woldenberg's conduct
14 evidences gross negligence, incompetence,
15 gross immorality and moral turpitude.

16 (2) During the period from May 1974
17 through December 1975, Woldenberg conducted
18 weekly therapy sessions on Bettyanne B.^{18/} On
19 one occasion in December 1975, while
20 Woldenberg and Jill B. were at a Ralph's
21 market in Los Angeles, Woldenberg ridiculed
22 Bettyanne B. for being a "pig." Woldenberg's
23 conduct evidences gross negligence and
24

25 17. Woldenberg was the only medical doctor serving as a
26 Center therapist. All other therapists were either psychologists,
marriage, family, and child counselors or unlicensed.

27 18. All acts occurred at the Center unless stated otherwise.

18.

1 incompetence. During therapy sessions in
2 1975, Woldenberg allowed and encouraged
3 unlicensed Center therapist Patricia Franklin
4 to conduct unsupervised therapy sessions on
5 Bettyanne B. On one such occasion, Franklin
6 instructed Bettyanne B. to strip to her
7 underwear and stand in a "stress position"
8 with her legs bent for one and one-half hours
9 purportedly to show Bettyanne B. how to "feel
10 her body." This resulted in aggravation of a
11 back injury and significant pain.

12 Woldenberg's conduct evidences gross
13 negligence, incompetence, and aiding and
14 abetting the unlicensed practice of
15 psychology/psychiatry under circumstances
16 creating the risk of serious physical or
17 mental illness.

18 During 1975, Woldenberg represented to
19 Bettyanne B. that Patricia Franklin was a
20 fully qualified therapist to conduct
21 Woldenberg's therapy sessions of Bettyanne B.
22 in Woldenberg's absence. In truth and in
23 fact, Woldenberg knew that Patricia Franklin
24 was unlicensed and untrained to conduct
25 licensed therapy. Woldenberg's conduct
26 evidences gross negligence, incompetence,
27 dishonesty and aiding and abetting Patricia

1 Franklin to misrepresent herself as a fully
2 qualified therapy practitioner.

3 (3) In or about October 1979, while in a
4 therapist-patient relationship with Center
5 patient Doni W., Woldenberg instructed Doni W.
6 to have an abortion pursuant to instructions
7 to Doni W. by unlicensed Center therapist
8 Konni Corriere. During therapy sessions in
9 September and October 1979, Corriere
10 represented to Doni W. that she was too
11 "crazy" to have a child and had to have an
12 abortion for Doni W.'s therapy to be
13 successful. When Doni W. objected, Woldenberg
14 represented to Doni W. that she had to obey
15 Corriere's instruction to have an abortion.
16 At Woldenberg's and Corriere's insistence,
17 Doni W. had an abortion in October 1979.
18 Woldenberg's conduct evidences gross
19 negligence, incompetence, gross immorality,
20 dishonesty and aiding and abetting unlicensed
21 practice creating risk of serious physical or
22 mental injury to Doni W.

23 (4) During at least 1978, Woldenberg
24 conducted weekly therapy sessions on Larry C.
25 during which he routinely "belittled, berated,
26 criticized and emotionally and verbally
27 abused" Larry C. as well as physically

1 striking him.^{19/} Woldenberg's conduct
2 evidences gross negligence and incompetence.

3 (5) During at least 1979, Woldenberg
4 conducted weekly therapy sessions on Joy C.
5 During one session in early 1979, Woldenberg
6 ridiculed Joy C. for being a "Bull Dike,"
7 "lunged at [her] and threw [her] half-way
8 across the room into a wall." "He pushed
9 [her] against the wall and was choking [her]
10 and calling her names for several minutes."
11 "This was hurtful physically and frightening
12 psychologically and [she] ended up in tears."
13 Woldenberg's conduct evidences gross
14 negligence and incompetence.

15 (6) During June and July 1978, Woldenberg
16 conducted weekly therapy sessions on Elliot G.
17 during which Woldenberg referred to Elliot G.
18 as "dog-shit" and instructed and required
19 Elliot G. "to wear a T-shirt which said 'DOG
20 SHIT'" on it. Woldenberg's conduct evidences
21 gross negligence and incompetence. Between
22 June 1978 and November 1980, Woldenberg
23 collected a total of \$12,000 from Elliot G. by
24 representing to him that the money was to be
25 used for a gymnasium for Center members. In

26
27 19. Quotations are taken from the sworn declarations of
complaining witnesses referenced hereinabove.

1 truth and in fact, Woldenberg used the money
2 to buy a ranch for himself and other Center
3 therapist in Arizona. Woldenberg's
4 representations to Elliot G. were false and
5 known by him to be false and evidence
6 dishonesty.

7 (7) During 1980, on a weekly basis,
8 Woldenberg required George G., as part of
9 George G.'s purported therapy, to conduct
10 unlicensed therapy sessions on Center patient
11 Martin R. Woldenberg knew George G. had no
12 competent training in psychotherapy.
13 Woldenberg's conduct evidences gross
14 negligence, incompetence and aiding and
15 abetting the unlicensed practice of
16 psychology/psychiatry creating serious risk of
17 physical or mental injury to George G. and
18 Martin R.

19 (8) During October 1975, in the presence
20 of Woldenberg, Center patient Melody G. told
21 unlicensed therapist Riggs Corriere that she
22 wanted to leave the Center. Corriere
23 violently beat Melody G., throwing her to the
24 floor, tearing her clothes and repeatedly
25 striking her. Woldenberg allowed Corriere to
26 beat Melody G. for several minutes before
27 interceding. During a therapy session

1 conducted by Woldenberg in March 1975,
2 Woldenberg instructed Melody G., Barbara B.,
3 Linda T., and other patients to violently beat
4 patient Jama T. as part of her purported
5 feeling therapy. Woldenberg's conduct in
6 encouraging and allowing this physical abuse
7 of Center patients evidences gross negligence
8 and incompetence.

9 (9) During 1973, Woldenberg conducted
10 weekly therapy sessions on Marilyn H. during
11 which he required that she drink large
12 quantities of water and refrain from urinating
13 until the pain became severe. Marilyn H. told
14 Woldenberg she suffered from chronic urinary
15 tract and bladder infections and that she had
16 been told by her personal physician not to
17 hold her urine for any prolonged period of
18 time. Nevertheless, Woldenberg continued to
19 instruct Mrilyn H. to drink a quart of water
20 before every therapy session and not to
21 urinate until she returned home at night even
22 though this caused great discomfort.
23 Woldenberg's conduct evidences gross
24 negligence and incompetence.

25 (10) In June 1979, Woldenberg conducted a
26 therapy session on Alyson L. during which he
27 ridiculed her for being a "waste of time"

1 until she cried. When her nose started to
2 run, she asked Woldenberg for a Kleenex and he
3 viciously replied "use your sleeve that's what
4 all little Pollacks do, they wipe their noses
5 on their arms." Woldenberg's conduct
6 evidences gross negligence and incompetence.

7 (11) During the period from June 1972
8 through through September 1976, Woldenberg
9 conducted weekly therapy sessions on Jack M.
10 During the period from September 1973 through
11 1974, as part of Jack M.'s purported therapy,
12 Woldenberg required Jack M. to conduct therapy
13 sessions on Center patients Vincent R.,
14 Mike G., Steve Z., and Craig K. Woldenberg
15 instructed Jack M. to "intimidate" and
16 "terrorize the patients by screaming at them
17 and striking them." Jack M. had no training
18 in psychology whatsoever and Woldenberg knew
19 this. Woldenberg's conduct evidences gross
20 negligence, incompetence and aiding and
21 abetting the unlicensed practice of
22 psychology/psychiatry creating the risk of
23 serious physical or mental injury.

24 (12) In or about March 1973, Woldenberg
25 conducted a therapy session on Peggy O. during
26 which he "shouted at her, slapped her face and
27 body, pushed her up against the wall and

1 shoved and threw her physically across the
2 room for about two hours" (declaration of
3 Jack M.). Woldenberg's conduct evidences
4 gross negligence and incompetence.

5 (13) During the period of 1974, Woldenberg
6 conducted weekly therapy sessions on Tony L.,
7 Howard J., David L., Marilyn H., Vicky A.,
8 Larry C., and Peggy O. during which, on
9 numerous occasions, Woldenberg instructed the
10 group to "beat up" Larry C. (declaration of
11 Jack M.). Woldenberg's conduct evidences
12 gross negligence and incompetence.

13 (14) In or about April 1975, Woldenberg
14 conducted a therapy session on Kris L. during
15 which he instructed her to stand naked in
16 front of fellow Center patients Tony L.,
17 Howard J., David L., Marilyn H., Vicky A.,
18 Larry C., Peggy O., and Jack M. Woldenberg
19 then verbally humiliated her for being
20 overweight. Woldenberg's conduct evidences
21 gross negligence and incompetence.

22 (15) During the period from approximately
23 October 1974 through 1975, while in a
24 patient-therapist relationship with Center
25 patient Barbara M., Woldenberg engaged in
26 sexual intercourse with Barbara M. on repeated
27 occasions on at least a monthly basis. These

1 incidents occurred in Woldenberg's house or
2 Barbara M.'s apartment. Woldenberg's conduct
3 evidences gross negligence, incompetence, and
4 moral turpitude.

5 (16) In August 1978, Woldenberg and
6 unlicensed therapist Richard Corriere
7 instructed their patient Judy O. to contribute
8 \$3,500 to the Center representing to Judy O.
9 that it would be used for a "gymnasium fund."
10 In truth and in fact, Woldenberg and Corriere
11 diverted this money to their own use.
12 Woldenberg's conduct evidences dishonesty.

13 (17) During March and April 1978,
14 Woldenberg conducted weekly therapy sessions
15 on Robert S. During one therapy session
16 during this period, Woldenberg ridiculed
17 Robert S. for being a "wimp" and "little
18 Jew-boy" and punched Robert S. until he cried.
19 When Robert S. began crying, Woldenberg
20 further ridiculed him by saying "the only
21 thing a Jew understands is pain. Woldenberg's
22 conduct evidences gross negligence and
23 incompetence.

24 (18) During October, November, and December
25 1978, Woldenberg conducted therapy sessions on
26 Daniel T. during which he ridiculed Daniel T.
27 for living his life like a baby. As a therapy

1 assignment, Woldenberg required Daniel T. to
2 eat only baby food, sleep in a crib and wear
3 diapers for eight weeks. During this
4 eight-week period, Woldenberg also regularly
5 ridiculed Daniel T. for wanting to go back to
6 college and study music. Woldenberg required
7 Daniel T., as part of his purported therapy,
8 to work for the Center as a mechanic at least
9 60 hours a week and represented to Daniel T.
10 that this was his "real career." Woldenberg's
11 conduct evidences gross negligence and
12 incompetence.

13 (19) During 1978, Woldenberg conducted
14 weekly therapy sessions on Robert W. During
15 these sessions, Woldenberg regularly ridiculed
16 Robert W. for being "insane" and a "neurotic"
17 "Jew" and referred to Robert W. as "the little
18 Jew in the big Cadillac." During a
19 three-month period in 1978, Woldenberg put
20 Robert W. on a special diet which resulted in
21 Robert W. gaining 25 pounds over his normal
22 weight of 140 pounds. Woldenberg required
23 Robert W. to eat so much food that he "often
24 vomited from overeating." Woldenberg's
25 conduct evidences gross negligence and
26 incompetence.

27 /
27.

1 (20) During February 1977, Woldenberg
2 conducted weekly therapy sessions on Inez K.
3 during which he routinely ridiculed her for
4 being a "dirty Mexican, greaser and beaner."
5 During a session in February 1977, Woldenberg
6 instructed Inez K. to drink Tequila until she
7 passed out. Woldenberg's conduct evidences
8 gross negligence and incompetence.

9 (21) During May 1980, Woldenberg conducted
10 weekly therapy sessions on Susan S. during
11 which he ridiculed her for not having a
12 boyfriend. As purported therapy, Woldenberg
13 "assigned" Susan S. to go out on five dates a
14 week and find a "mate" by August 1980, or, in
15 the alternative, Woldenberg threatened to
16 "assign" Susan S. a mate from the Center
17 patients. Woldenberg's conduct evidences
18 gross negligence, incompetence, and sexual
19 abuse.

20 (22) During June 1972, Woldenberg conducted
21 weekly therapy sessions on Kathy K. during
22 which he verbally humiliated her for being
23 sexually repressed. During one of these
24 sessions, Woldenberg required Kathy K. to
25 state: "I want to go out with you Lee and I
26 want to fuck you. Will you go out with me?"
27 Woldenberg then further humiliated Kathy K. by

1 derisively saying "no." After persistent
2 ridicule during June 1972, Kathy K.
3 experienced difficulty in talking to
4 Woldenberg. Woldenberg then turned Kathy K.'s
5 therapy sessions over to unlicensed Center
6 therapist Konni Corriere who conducted therapy
7 sessions on Kathy K. from 1972 until 1974.
8 Woldenberg's conduct evidences gross
9 negligence, incompetence and aiding and
10 abetting the unlicensed practice of medicine
11 under circumstances creating the risk of
12 serious physical or mental illness.

13 (23) On or about February 4, 1976,
14 Woldenberg signed a letter of recommendation
15 to the board on behalf of unlicensed Center
16 therapist Richard ("Riggs") Corriere in which
17 Woldenberg represented that he had known
18 Corriere for six years while conducting
19 therapy at the Center and that Corriere's
20 character was "outstanding in every respect"
21 and that Corriere's "level of competence" was
22 "extremely high, with continuity, integrity
23 and caring for those he helps as great as
24 [Woldenberg had] ever seen." In truth and in
25 fact, Woldenberg knew that Corriere had acted
26 as an unlicensed, unsupervised therapist at
27 the Center from January 1971 through January

1 1976, and that during this time, Corriere
2 regularly and routinely abused patients, as
3 evidenced hereinabove at paragraph 8, and
4 aided and abetted the unlicensed practice of
5 therapy by, among others, Corriere's wife,
6 Konni Corriere. Woldenberg's conduct
7 evidences his knowingly signing a document
8 related to the practice of medicine which
9 falsely represented Corriere's qualifications.

10 (24) In or about November 1980, when the
11 Center for Feeling Therapy collapsed as a
12 result of prolonged and extensive patient
13 abuse, Woldenberg removed or caused to be
14 removed from the medical files of the Center
15 patients listed hereinabove all nude
16 photographs of said patients which were
17 routinely taken during their group therapy
18 sessions. Woldenberg did this to conceal the
19 abusive nature of treatment evidenced by said
20 photographs. Woldenberg's conduct evidences
21 the fraudulent alteration or modification of
22 medical records.

23 (25) In convincing the hereinabove
24 referenced patients to join the Center for
25 Feeling Therapy, respondent disseminated or
26 caused to be disseminated statements,
27 pamphlets and "information" letters in which

1 it was represented that "all [Center] staff
2 members are either certified primal therapists
3 or trainee primal therapists with varied
4 degrees in social work, marriage, and family
5 counseling, clinical psychology and medicine;"
6 that feeling therapy was useful in controlling
7 "over-eating, chronic smoking, homosexuality,
8 impotence, frigidity, shyness;" that therapy
9 was designed to be completed in "from six to
10 twelve months at the Center;" and that therapy
11 would cost and was worth \$2,500 initially and
12 "\$20 for each session." In truth and in fact,
13 and so known by Woldenberg to be true, feeling
14 therapy at the Center was routinely conducted
15 by unlicensed therapists and untrained
16 patients, feeling therapy involved physical
17 and mental abuse which injured rather than
18 benefitted patients, patients were intimidated
19 during therapy sessions into paying amounts
20 greatly in excess of those advertised and
21 Center therapy was designed to keep patients
22 in therapy for as long as the Center existed
23 (10 years for many patients). Woldenberg's
24 conduct evidences false and misleading
25 advertising.

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31.

1 WHEREFORE, complainant prays that the division hold a
2 hearing on the matters alleged herein, and following said hearing,
3 issue a decision:

4 1. Revoking physician's and surgeon's certificate
5 number G-15581 heretofore issued to Lee Steven Woldenberg, M.D.;
6 and

7 2. Taking such other and further action as the division
8 in its discretion deems proper.

9 KENNETH J. WAGSTAFF
10 Executive Director
11 Board of Medical Quality Assurance
12 State of California
13 Complainant

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DATED: February 8, 1985 By: William L. Carter
WILLIAM L. CARTER
Deputy Attorney General

WLC:gld
D-WOLDEN1-32
2-7-85